Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim1. (previously presented):

An isolated nucleic acid comprising bases 89-1060 of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 2. (withdrawn):

An isolated protein consisting of an amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 3 (withdrawn):

An isolated protein at least 70% homologous to said protein of claim 2, wherein said isolated protein is a functional homologue of NAC1.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A nucleic acid encoding the protein of ~~claim 3~~ SEQ ID NO:2 or a protein that is at least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and can form dimers, bind to the same DNA binding sites as NAC1 and cause plants transformed with a nucleic acid encoding the protein to grow larger than a plant not transformed with a nucleic acid encoding the protein.

Claim 5. (currently amended): A ~~transgenic~~ plant which is transgenic for ~~a nucleic acid comprising~~ the nucleic acid of claim 4.

Claim 6. (currently amended): A ~~transgenic~~ plant cell which is transgenic for ~~a nucleic acid comprising~~ the nucleic acid of claim 4.

Claim 7. (currently amended): A method of growing a plant comprising transforming said plant with the nucleic acid of claim 4, allowing said protein to be expressed in said plant and growing

said plant wherein said plant will grow larger than a ~~wild-type~~ plant not transformed with said nucleic acid.

Claims 8-10 canceled.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of growing a ~~genetically altered~~ plant transgenic for NAC1 larger than a ~~wild-type~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1, the method comprising overexpressing NAC1 in said ~~altered~~ plant transgenic for NAC1 and wherein the expression of NAC1 causes the transgenic plant to grow larger than the non transgenic plant.

Claim 12. (currently amended): The method of claim 11 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces larger leaves than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 11 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces larger roots than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 11 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces more lateral roots than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of growing a ~~genetically altered~~ plant transgenic for NAC1 larger than a ~~wild-type version of said~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1, the method comprising overexpressing in said transgenic plant a protein of ~~claim 3 in said altered plant~~ SEQ ID NO:2 or a protein that is at least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and can form dimers, bind to the same DNA binding sites as NAC1 and cause plants transformed with a nucleic acid expressing the protein to grow larger than a plant not transformed with a nucleic acid expressing the protein.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 15 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces larger leaves than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1.

Claim 17: (currently amended): The method of claim 15 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces larger roots than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1.

Claim 18: (currently amended): The method of claim 15 wherein said plant transgenic for NAC1 produces more lateral roots than said ~~wild-type version~~ plant not transgenic for NAC1.

Claim 19: (currently amended): A transgenic plant made by ~~inserting~~ introducing a nucleic acid of claim 4 into a ~~wild-type~~ plant not transgenic for said nucleic acid.

Claim 20 (new): A nucleic acid encoding the protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 21 (new): A plant which is transgenic for the nucleic acid of claim 20.

Claim 22 (new): A plant cell which is transgenic for the nucleic acid of claim 20.

Claim 23 (new): A method of growing a plant transgenic for a nucleic acid encoding SEQ ID NO:2, the method comprising transforming said plant with the nucleic acid of claim 20, allowing said protein to be expressed in said plant and growing said plant, wherein said plant will grow larger than a plant not transformed with said nucleic acid.